

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 INR-10 SS-15 SP-02 MMO-01
/048 W

-----004071 291504Z /47

R 282148Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8785
INFO SECDEF WASHDC //ISA//
CNO WASHDC
DIA WASHDC //DR/D/AH/AH-7/9/AH-6//RPM-2C/AH-1//

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BOGOTA 8191

EO 11652: 31 DEC 84
TAGS: AMGT, AFSP, APER, MILI, CO, PM, ARA/AND
SUBJ: MODE: RESTORATION OF ALUSNA (U)
REF: A) STATE INSPECTION MEMO 9.2 MAR 78, B) STATE 203346
(NOTAL), C) BOGOTA 7804 (NOTAL)

1. (C) RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO REQUEST
RESTORATION OF NAVAL ATTACHE (ALUSNA) BILLET AND FOREIGN NATIONAL
DRIVER BILLET TO USDAO, BOGOTA. ALUSNA BILLET WAS DELETED IN
1966 AND FN DRIVER BILLET IN FEB 77.

2. (C) DAO BOGOTA IS CURRENTLY MANNED BY:

COLONEL/06 ARMY (DATT/ARMA)
LTCOL/05 AIR FORCE (AIRA)
CW2 ARMY (OPERATIONS COORDINATOR)
SFC ARMY (ADMIN SPEC)
IS1 (INTEL SPEC)
BILINGUAL FN SECRETARY
FN DRIVER

DATT/ARMA CURRENTLY HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR REPORTING CONCERNING
COLOMBIAN MINDEF, ARMED FORCES COMMAND, ARMY AND NAVY. AIRA HAS
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RESPONSIBILITY FOR COLOMBIAN AIR FORCE AND NATIONAL POLICE
REPORTING.

3. (C) THE COLOMBIAN NAVY CURRENTLY HAS A FLEET STRENGTH OF 56
VESSELS CONSISTING OF 4 DESTROYERS, 1 DESTROYER ESCORT, 4
SUBMARINES AND ASSORTED PATROL AND SERVICE CRAFT. THE OCEAN-
GOING PORTION OF THE FLEET IS DISPERSED AT 4 OR 5 SMALLER RIVER

AND PACIFIC OCEAN PORTS, ALL AT LEAST 500 KILOMETERS FROM BOGOTA. IT IS ENVISIONED THAT TO FULFILL HIS RESPONSIBILITIES, ALUSNA WOULD HAVE TO SPEND 4-8 DAYS/1-2 TRIPS PER MONTH TRAVELLING TO COASTAL AND REMOTE RIVER BASES.

4. (C) COLNAV CURRENTLY HAS APPROXIMATELY 6,500 OFFICERS AND MEN INCLUDING APPROXIMATELY 2,500 MARINE CORPS OFFICERS AND MEN. IT HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY AND MANAGEMENT OF COLOMBIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS, NAVAL BASES ON 1,500 MILES OF COAST ON THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC INCLUDING TWO OCEAN APPROACHES TO THE PANAMA CANAL, AND MARINE DEEP WATER AND RIVER PORTS. COLNAV IS NOW CHARGED WITH MAINTAINING THE SECURITY OF RECENTLY ANNOUNCED 200 MILE EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE, AS WELL AS ANTI-NARCOTICS/ CONTRABAND PATROLLING AND INTERDICTION. IN ADDITION IT HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY AND PATROLLING OF SOUTHERN AND EASTERN RIVERLINE BORDERS WITH ECUADOR, PERU, BRAZIL AND VENEZUELA.

5. (C) WITH THE EXCEPTION OF COLOMBIAN NAVAL HQ, MOST NAVY AND MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS ARE SEPARATED BY GREAT DISTANCES FROM BOGOTA OVER DIFFICULT TERRAIN. IN THE PAST THERE WAS A 7 MEMBER NAVY MISSION WITHIN THE MILGP. THAT MISSION MAINTAINED A SUB-MISSION OF 2 OFFICERS AND A CHIEF PETTY OFFICER NEAR THE PRINCIPAL NAVY BASE IN CARTAGENA. IN 1977 THE MILGP WAS CUT TO 6 OFFICERS, AND THE NAVAL COMPONENT TO TWO OFFICERS (1 NAVY, 1 MARINE CORPS). SINCE THE MILGP CUT, INTELLIGENCE REPORTING OF NAVAL ORDER OF BATTLE AND OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS MERCHANT SHIP
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REPORTING HAS BEEN SPARSE TO NON-EXISTENT WITH REPRESENTATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES BEING COVERED ON AN AS-POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE BASIS BETWEEN THE SMALL NAVAL COMPONENT OF THE MILGP AND THE BOGOTA DAO. SOME OF THE FUNCTIONS PREVIOUSLY PERFORMED BY THE NAVAL COMPONENT OF THE MILGP THAT NOW FREQUENTLY CANNOT BE CARRIED OUT, OR CREATE SEVERE STAFFING DISLOCATIONS, ARE:

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 INR-10 SS-15 SP-02 MMO-01
/048 W

-----004324 291503Z /47

R 282148Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8786

INFO SECDEF WASHDC //ISA//

CNO WASHDC

DIA WASHDC //DR/D/AH/AH-7/9/AH-6//RPM-2C/AH-1//

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BOGOTA 8191

A. (C) UNITAS SUPPORT. PLANNING AND SUPPORT FOR THIS ANNUAL JOINT U.S.-COLOMBIAN NAVAL TRAINING EXERCISE HAS, IN THE PAST, REQUIRED APPROXIMATELY 100 MAN DAYS EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE NAVAL MISSION. NEITHER THE MILGP NOR THE DAO AS CURRENTLY STAFFED ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE THIS KIND OF SUPPORT. ALUSNA COULD DO SO.

B. (U) SHIP VISITS. OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS U.S. NAVY SHIPS HAVE VISITED COLOMBIAN PORTS ON THE AVERAGE OF FIVE TIMES PER YEAR. THE NAVAL SUB-MISSION AT CARTAGENA HAD HANDLED THOSE VISITS TO CARTAGENA AND IN ONE INSTANCE TO SANTA MARTA. AN AVERAGE OF FIVE MAN DAYS IS REQUIRED TO SUPPORT EACH SHIP VISIT. USCG ACTIVITIES SUCH AS THE SHORT NOTICE PORT VISIT OF THE USCGC DILIGENCE TO CARTAGENA 10-13 AUG 78, SEVERELY TAX OUR CAPABILITIES. THE PROPOSED USCG COOPERATIVE EFFORT WITH COLNAV AND COLCG (CUSTOMS) IN DRUG INTERDICTION WILL CREATE FURTHER DEMANDS ON DAO WHICH CAN ONLY BE MET ADEQUATELY BY THE PRESENCE OF ALUSNA.

C. (U) MISCELLANEOUS. IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE TRADITIONAL DAO FUNCTIONS THAT MUST BE FULFILLED, OTHER REQUIREMENTS CONTINUALLY ARISE WHEREIN U.S. NAVAL EXPERTISE OR PRESENCE IS REQUIRED, E.G. SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS, MEDICAL EVACUATION, EMERGENCY LEAVE PROCESSING AND CURRENCY CONVERSION FOR SAILORS OF VISITING U.S. NAVY SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT.

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6. (U) WHEN ALUSNA AND FN DRIVER BILLET ARE APPROVED, BUDGET/FAAS INCREASES WILL BE ADDRESSED DIRECTLY TO DIA FROM USDAO. APPROVAL OF FN DRIVER BILLET IS REQUIRED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ALUSNA BILLET AS INCREASED WORKLOAD CRATED BY ALUSNA BILLET COULD NOT BE COVERED BY THE ONE FN DRIVER PRESENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE DAO.

7. (C) REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ALUSNA BILLET ARE:

USN COMMANDER/05 (1100 LINE OFFICER)

NAVAL COMMAND/STAFF COLLEGE

SPANISH LANGUAGE CAPABILITY OF AT LEAST S3/R3

IN ADDITION TO THESE REQUIREMENTS, OFFICER SHOULD HAVE EXPERIENCE IN SVN SAMPAN SCREENING OPERATIONS, COMMAND OR

EXECUTIVE OFFICER EXPERIENCE ON PATROL CRAFT, DD OR SMALLER
CONVENTIONAL CRAFT, AND CIVILIAN EDUCATION LEVEL OF BS/BA.

8. (C) I CONSIDER THIS A HIGH PRIORITY NEED FOR THIS MISSION.
NOT ONLY FROM THE STANDPOINT OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION -
AND IMPORTANT LIAISON FUNCTIONS WITH THE HOST COUNTRY'S EXPANDING
NAVAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN TWO OCEANS AND IN THE APPROACHES
TO THE PANAMA
CANAL - BUT ALSO TO GIVE ESSENTIAL SUPPORT TO OUR
ALL-OUT CAMPAIGN TO CURTAIL NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, I URGE THAT THE
ALUSNA POSITION BE RESTORED ASAP. I HAVE DISCUSSED THIS WITH
LT GEN AARON OF DIA AND HE FULLY SUPPORTS BY RECOMMENDATION.
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